

1609/502.

EXTRACTS FROM
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GENERAL COMMITTEE
OF THE
CATHOLICS OF IRELAND,

WHICH
MET ON TUESDAY APRIL 16,
AND FINALLY
DISSOLVED ON THURSDAY APRIL 25,
1793.

Published by Order of the LATE GENERAL COMMITTEE,
and then printed by H. FITZPATRICK, ORMOND QUAY, DUBLIN.

To which is added,
A
L E T T E R
SIGNED
WILLIAM TODD JONES,

EXTRACTED FROM
THE DUBLIN EVENING-POST
OF AUGUST 25, 1796.



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E X T R A C T S,

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RESOLVED—That a Committee be appointed to examine, and report what honorable *engagements* the Catholics of Ireland *lie under*, for services received.

The following gentlemen were accordingly chosen of the Committee :

THOMAS FITZGERALD, Jun. Esq. *Co. Kildare*,

CHAIRMAN.

MORGAN KAVANAGH, Esq. *Queen's Co.*

PATRICK MULLARKY, Esq. *Co. Sligo*,

JAS. EDW. DEVEREUX, Esq. *Co. Wexford*,

LUKE TEELING, Esq. *Co. Antrim*,

HUGH O'REILLY, Esq. *Co. Cavan*,

EDWARD FORESTAL, Esq. *Co. Kilkenny*,

OWEN O'CONNOR, Esq. *Co. Roscommon*,

CHRISTOPHER NUGENT, Esq. *Co. Longford*,

HUGH SAVAGE, Esq. *Co. Down*,

THOS. RICHARD GERAGHTY, Esq. *Co. Tyrone*,

WALTER BYRNE, Esq. *Co. Wicklow*,

PATRICK RUSSEL, Esq. *Co. Louth*,

SIR THOS. HAMILTON FRENCH, Bart. *Co. Galway*,

JAMES LALOR, Esq. *Co. Tipperary*,

JAMES

JAMES NANGLE, Esq. *Co. Meath*,
 ANDREW MACSHANE, Esq. *Co. Donegal*,
 DR. REILLY, *Co. Monaghan*,
 EDMD. DILLON, Esq. *Co. Mayo*,
 PATRICK SMITH, Esq. *Co. Dublin*,
 JOHN MANSFIELD, Esq. *Co. Waterford*,
 EDWARD BYRNE, Esq. *City of Dublin*.

And said Committee having reported :

RESOLVED—That the sum of fifteen hundred pounds, together with a gold medal of the value of thirty guineas, bearing a suitable inscription, be presented to THEOBALD WOLFE TONE, Esq. Agent to this Committee, as a testimony of his services, and our gratitude.

RESOLVED—That the Catholics of Ireland are indebted to the Hon. SIMON BUTLER, one of his Majesty's Counsel at law, in the sum of five hundred pounds, for his very able Digest of the Popery Laws, with the Introduction prefixed thereto, the Notes annexed to their Petition to his Majesty, and a Summary of the Popery Laws now in Force ; and that the Treasurer be ordered to pay the same with all convenient speed.

RESOLVED—That the sum of five hundred pounds be presented to WILLIAM TODD JONES, Esq. for his eminent services to the Catholic Cause, making with the like sum heretofore presented, the sum of one thousand pounds ; and that the third further sum of five hundred pounds be also presented to him, provided there shall be funds to make good the same, after the positive engagements of this Committee shall have been discharged,



Extracted

*Extracted from the Dublin Evening Post of
August 25, 1796.*

TO THE

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF IRELAND.

I Address you as from a fosterer, and protector, and if my stile does not assume the superiority correspondent with such a sentiment, it does not wear the complexion which my feelings dictate, and my political reputation demands ; a character which I arrested for myself ; which *was* not in your limited power to give ; and *is* not to take away—When you extort my disapprobation, my countrymen, I testify it to you with unconcern though your numbers were thirty millions instead of three : and I do not condescend to dabble with your Representatives in Committee, because their conduct, upon your tacit sanction, then becomes your own.

I did you the honour to express to you a *pecuniary need*, which I never did even to various, and varying Administrations during the period of an eight years Parliamentary service ; and had your *undischarged bequest* of fifteen hundred pounds, been in annuity for my life, it would have done you credit, by gratitude to your benefactor.—This morning I receive your advertisement, in reply ; deliberately composed, and coldly delivered ; propp'd upon the exactness of a well-kept Ledger, and upon the

the bronzed insensibility of ALL MEMORY SUBDUED :
 so, also, shall my memory appear : nor shall I address you as Lear did the elements, contemplating his children ; nor say there can be no combat between us, where there can be no parity of circumstances ; I, a laborious river pouring forth its current of life ; you, a barren swallow engulphing it to its fountain.

I have ever been so unconnected with your *Cabinet* Politicians, that I know not who your Committee are : which I state not more to illustrate that I have ever contemplated your claims in a wide, and general view, and not by subdivisions ; than to testify that I have ever communed with you ALL, as principals, and not intrigued with a cabal—You retire behind “ Resolutions ” of near four years duration ; and you recite to me “ conditionality ”—But I was not CONDITIONAL in the bold dedication to your interests of the labours of my early life, though most inattentive to my own, which reposed exclusively among Protestants : making efforts not totally impotent, to elevate you from prostration, at a period when I stood alone : and at a period, too, when you did not dare even to think for, or to make any efforts for yourselves ; dejected, and self-abandoned, as if forsaken of God, and man. But I have never tendered to you these rash counsels, as desperate, as unwarrantable, of endangering all property, by covering French Invasions ; or of meanly condescending to be obliged to foreign Freebooters for the restoration of domestic rights :
 these

these frantic counsels which have shoved the colossal statue of Catholic Emancipation from the steadily-founded basis of *its own intrinsic claims* ; have tumbled it upon dark and inauspicious ground, and flung its brightest prospects a century behind.

But though finally, I now feelingly, on your account as well as my own, derive satisfaction from this parting thought ; that I embraced you, and your interests, when intimidated, and dejected ; under a deprivation of every privilege of political citizenship, and of all religious toleration, but what issued from the precarious boon of forbearance in fluctuating Administrations : and that you now retire, *with alacrity* from me, when you are opulent, prosperous, powerful, and enfranchised.

AND NOW I HAVE DONE : No obloquy shall so trench upon my sensibility as to induce me to speak again : for I have been fourteen years in the exercise of tacitly receiving newspaper detraction, upon the score of being the advocate of the Catholics of Ireland.

WILLIAM TODD JONES.

North Wales,
August 14th, 1796.

P. S. The following is the concluding part of a letter from one of the most-respectable individuals of the Irish nation of any profession of faith ; and the Treasurer of your Funds :—"I make no apology for troubling you with this detail ; for a trouble it must be to you who have a generous soul, were
you

you totally unconcerned in the business, to see such meanness of spirit exhibited by men of wealth, who decline paying any part of the expences incurred in promoting their interests : for in consequence of the disabilities removed by your arduous exertions, the County of ***** has with Catholic money purchased fee simple Estates to the amount of *eighty thousand pound per annum* ; yet the proprietors of this mass of wealth, because the benefit has been universally diffused, cannot as yet be prevailed upon to assist in discharging their *debt to you* : while many of these purchasers would have given the total amount, and thought it a good bargain, for an exclusive exemption from the restrictions under which they groaned.—I shall for the present release you from a subject which furnishes such matter of vexation.—And am with unfeigned esteem, &c. &c.

“ THOMAS BRAUGHALL.”

June 1st, 1795.



F I N I S.